

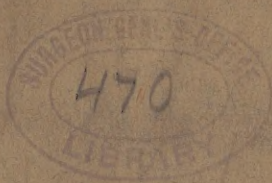
Addresses.

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ADDRESSES

DELIVERED AT THE OPENING OF THE

CINCINNATI HOSPITAL MEDICAL
LIBRARY.

May 11, 1892.



THE CINCINNATI HOSPITAL MEDICAL LIBRARY.



Addresses delivered at the opening of the Cincinnati Hospital Medical Library,
May 11, 1892.

ADDRESS BY

C. G. COMEGYS, M.D.,

President of the Staff.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to this spacious and commodious hall, which the Trustees of this hospital have so beautifully prepared for the reception of the large and growing medical library of this school. Few of our citizens have been aware of this accumulation of medical literature, which is of so much value in the progressive growth of Cincinnati as a seat of learning in the great Ohio Valley. I think we can assert that there is none comparable to this special library west of the Allegheny Mountains; and I am especially gratified to say that it is a department of our young University, and constitutes the library of the Clinical and Pathological School of the University of Cincinnati, and is a bright promise of its future growth and splendor.

This is, indeed, an august presence, for here is collected the evidence of the operations of the medical mind from the remotest antiquity down to the present time. We are, therefore, in a medical point of view, standing between the living and the dead.

Beginning with the hygienic code of Moses, which embodies the results of his Egyptian training, and is the counterpart of the moral law—the Ten Commandments received from the hands of God—down through all the

eras of Greek, Roman, Arabic and modern civilization, the history of medical discovery and progress may here be found in orderly arrangement and accessible to all inquiries in medical, sanitary and biological sciences.

All that surrounds you on these shelves and in these alcoves is, in an intellectual and scientific point of view, the product of man's creative energy. It is not possible to say what is the greatest factor in the elements of human consciousness, but it is certain that without the symbolizing, or language faculty, no progress could ever have been made in intellectual growth. Without signs to express ideas, the presentation, through our senses, of the phenomena of the external world could never have been utilized, or understood. All of the images thus conveyed to the mind would have been as mere dissolving views merging into one another as in dreams; but by the operations of the sematic faculty language was created, terms were invented, ideas and images could be objected, classified, held apart, contemplated, as in a mirror, and so embodied in signs as to be communicated to others from age to age. Language, then, containing all the properties of the objective world, and united subjectively with all the products of mental activity, forms a middle sphere of existence between the soul and nature,

"into which are translated all the phenomena of the universe and made intelligible to the human understanding." Thus all the studies and observations of the immense past in the classificatory and physical sciences are preserved in these precious records and in such terms that we can comprehend them. In this point of view this library, and all writings in all tongues, are the creation, I repeat, of man's constructive genius.

If you will take the pains to investigate the history of all civilized nations you shall find in the construction of all governments and amongst the usages of all peoples the medical profession has been fostered and helped by liberal subvention of the State in order that the people could receive the greatest benefit from this beneficent and consolatory art. I regret to add that in this mighty democratic government of the people, by the people and for the people, comparatively little in this way has been done.

Another fact that will become patent if you shall pursue this historical study: in all eras of civilization medicine has been in the front line of scientific research; it has not lagged; it has not lacked in the orderly arrangement of its subject matter. As a science of observation its opinions stand with as much clearness and certainty as those of other professions and pursuits of men. Is there not as much difference in opinions among clergymen, lawyers, statesmen, politicians, merchants, manufacturers, and even engineers, as among medical men?

Some will say, why, then, are there so many schools? We reply, really there is not a particle of difference in the chief studies of medical schools; for example, there is but one anatomy, physiology, chemistry, physics, biology, hygiene and sanitation; it is only in the choice of remedies and modes of preparation and the manner of operations that you find differences, but there is one true, severe unity amidst all the apparent disparity, and to seek this every honest and well-informed physician is continually aspiring. The higher medical education now evolving will

bring all eventually together. The organism which is called medicine, like every other product of man's constructive genius, is striving to attain perfection, and we appeal to society to sustain us in all scientific undertakings; we ask a hearty coöperation of the people, for whose health and happiness all our efforts are continually put forth. It is certainly a remarkable spectacle to observe our constant efforts to prevent diseases and stay their progress, when if we become successful, our practice would be reduced to the smallest dimensions. Another thing is worth mentioning: that our service to the great hospitals in our country, and I may say in Christendom, is entirely gratuitous. Every other person in the service is paid, and you will be told presently by another speaker that this large library of expensive works has been purchased by the fees paid by students, who are taught by the staff year by year. This conspicuous generosity grows out of the nature of our studies, which give the highest motives for unselfish service to suffering humanity.

Physicians in all ages have been conspicuous for their learning and labors in every field that concerns the education and well-being of the people. Their work in many respects has been related to the most profound questions of philosophy. Aristotle was a practitioner of medicine, and accompanied Alexander as chief of staff in the most of his great conquests. His devotion to natural history was most conspicuous, but his mightiest production was his system of philosophy, which not only was the chief guide of Greek and Roman thought, but was the text-book of all teachers and scholars down to the seventeenth century; and John Locke, an English physician, in like manner in his "Treatise on the Human Understanding," has had no less influence on the course of modern thought. But all that has been accomplished in the past can not compare with the tireless and limitless researches carried forward at this time to ascertain the origin of diseases and the prevention of their ravages. In this hospital, as well as in

others all over the world, this work is continuous. Physicians have, in fine, assumed the stupendous task of destroying the minute organisms that propagate all the infectious diseases that have desolated the families of the people. Small-pox has nearly disappeared, and scarlet fever, diphtheria, cholera and other contagions will become as completely extinct when we can obtain the

sanction of the legislature for thorough sanitation.

It now is my agreeable privilege to call upon Dr. David Judkins, the President of the Board of Trustees, whose long and faithful services have given great distinction to this house, to continue the services of this interesting occasion.

ADDRESS BY

DAVID JUDKINS, M.D.,

Of Board of Trustees.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As President of the Board of Trustees it gives me pleasure to meet you in connection with this completed depository for our great medical library. The room itself finished and furnished, as you see, is the gift of our own people, authorized by legal State enactment.

Stored upon these shelves are about 9,000 volumes of carefully selected books and periodicals, all of which are medical, or collateral to that great science.

This large and rare collection of authoritative reference has been paid for and placed here with money received from the sale of tickets to the clinical lectures of the hospital. These lectures are delivered by our Medical Staff, and *all* revenue resulting paid into the hands of the Trustees, and by them deposited in the City Treasury, to the credit of the Library and Museum Fund, as required by law.

The duty imposed upon me to-day would not be complete if I failed to say—in the name of the Board of Trustees—how grateful we feel to these cultured men of our Staff, for their unselfish devotion to duty. This well-appointed “study-room,” with its untold outcome to the miner, is only a part of their excellent work. From day to day, and, when necessary, at night, they apply from cultured heads, kind hearts and skillful hands, their knowledge of the healing art to the sick and injured men, women and children, residents in this

home that you have given them. All this they do willingly, thoroughly, cheerfully, without hope of reward, save that which is alway sure; conscientious well-doing in a righteous cause secures “the blessing of him that maketh rich and addeth no sorrow therewith.”

You will hear full details of library history from Dr. Wm. Carson, who is now, and has been for many years, a faithful and valued worker in the hospital.

In conclusion, I will embrace the opportunity and say a few words to the tax-payers present in reference to expenditures, etc. When the present Board of Trustees was created by State law in 1861, the average length of time each patient spent in the hospital was eighty-five days. Under the same government the time is now about twenty-six days.

It will be seen that nearly two months of time has been gained for the hospital in residence of patients. This, at seventy-six cents per day for each patient, is an item worthy of notice. The hospital is at this time in debt, and will continue to be while the present system of appropriation is followed. We are called upon each year to state *in detail* what amount is necessary to support the work. The estimate is minutely and carefully made and sent to the proper authority. It is then manipulated, and, as a rule, largely reduced. We have appealed to our law-makers (State

legislation) for relief, and are informed "you must live within your income." This we would do if the city authorities would grant what we clearly show them is necessary.

It is impossible for outside parties to judge intelligently what amount of

appropriation should be made for such an institution as this. The Board of Trustees make their estimate of expenses from practical knowledge of the work, and their statement forwarded to the city authorities is, in all instances, founded upon absolute necessity.

ADDRESS BY

HON. WM. M. RAMSEY,

Of Cincinnati.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

There is manifested, from time to time, a good deal of lack of information, and a good deal of misinformation, about the affairs of this institution. A most striking illustration of this is found in the public announcement that I would deliver an "address" upon this occasion. I was requested to be present with you, and to speak a word of congratulation to the Trustees and to the Medical Faculty of the hospital, and to express the gratitude of the people of the city to the generous donors of this library, speaking on behalf of the people of the city, whom I assume to represent only because I am one of their number. I gladly undertook this modest and agreeable task, and am here for this purpose alone.

And now, gentlemen of the Board of Trustees of the Cincinnati Hospital, I do most sincerely congratulate you upon the opening of this library, not merely because it is a valuable collection of new and useful books, but because of the method of its acquisition, and the spirit which inspired the gift; and to you, gentlemen of the Medical Faculty, who have made this noble contribution to science and humanity, I feel warranted in saying that the people of this city will regard it as a generous gift which is in keeping with the spirit of your noble profession—a profession of which unselfishness is the most prominent characteristic—and that it will furnish an additional ground upon which to rest your just claims to the affection of the public and their gratitude.

Is it not true that the medical pro-

fession is unselfish? The true physician withholds nothing from mankind. He is moved by the conviction that he is in the exercise of a ministry, and he reserves nothing of physical or intellectual power, nothing of scientific knowledge. He has no secrets from his brethren or from a suffering race. Does he, while in the ordinary discharge of his duty in the sick-room, in the clinic, or in the profound investigations of the laboratory, discover a new aid to diagnosis, a new method of treatment, or a new remedial agent, or even a hint of any of these, he proclaims the fact at once to his professional brethren; it is discussed at the next meeting of his medical society, commented upon in the current medical journal, and after full examination and repeated experiment it makes its appearance in the enduring form of the bound volume, and the volume itself is opened freely to all.

Everything else of supposed or real value is secured to the discoverer. The literary man clamors for a copyright, that he may have the pecuniary value of his brain—a value which is too often, alas! the only value which it possesses. The inventor of a new process or a new machine demands a patent. The only unpatented machine is that which is known as the political machine, and whether that remains unpatented because of scruples in the patent office upon the subject of utility, or because its managers feel that they need no additional security for the exclusiveness of its use and benefit, I do not know.

The physician alone asks nothing in return for the results of his investiga-

tions and his labors. He only asks the acceptance of that which he freely lays upon the altar. This is one of the leading grounds upon which the medical profession rests its claim to the proud prefix "liberal," and it is one of the many grounds upon which its just title to the respect, affection and gratitude of the race so surely rests.

It would be strange indeed if this were not so. It is hard to conceive of one qualified in any way for the high vocation of the physician so indifferent to the claims of humanity as to be willing to traffic in really scientific knowledge of disease and its remedies.

In our country alone more than 100,000 persons annually die of phthisis. What would be thought of one who possessed and withheld the knowledge of a remedy for this scourge? It is a charity to believe of those who pretend to the possession of such a secret that they are but pretenders. We may be assured that ere long the faithful men who are spending laborious days and nights in the investigation of this subject will find a remedy, and, when found, it will be proclaimed in unmistakable terms from one end to the other of the civilized world.

I wish that I could shout into the ears of every suffering member of our race to-day that the man who pretends to the possession of such secrets is, by that fact alone, conclusively proven to be a quack! If I could do so, and could enforce belief in the simple truth of the statement, I would, indeed, be a benefactor!

This characteristic of the medical profession has been one of the chief causes of the rapid advancement which has been made in the knowledge of medicine and surgery in all their departments. It has eagerly availed itself of the general growth of all scientific knowledge, and appropriated it to the uses of the profession. Hence, the theory and practice of medicine and surgery of this day have but little resemblance to those of fifty years ago. The medical opinions of twenty years ago have been greatly changed, while in surgery I think it would not be extravagant to say that Sir Astley Cooper,

if he were here, could not pass an examination for admission to the senior class of any medical school in Cincinnati. Ours has been a century of progress, indeed, but in nothing has this been more strikingly evidenced than in the art of healing, and in the method of prevention of disease. An enthusiastic writer upon the subject uses this language:

"Nowhere has man more notably widened his empire than in his increased knowledge of his own body, and in his enlarged power to sooth its pains and cure its manifold disorders. Until lately the healer of diseases groped in darkness, knowing imperfectly the purposes of the great organs, and utterly ignorant of their existing conditions. A series of wonderfully ingenious instruments now open to him the mysteries of the living body. The stethoscope, the speculum, the laryngoscope and the ophthalmoscope enable him to read with unfailing accuracy the progress of disease in the internal and hitherto inaccessible organs. The microscope, as it is now used, gives him to comprehend the exquisitely delicate organization with which he deals. The rejection of remedies applied in ignorance, and the adoption of effective methods of treatment, have naturally accompanied this large increase of knowledge. The use of chloroform and other anæsthetics has relieved humanity from the unutterable anguish which, until thirty years ago, attended all important surgical operations."

The treatment of the insane has changed from semi-barbarous to humane and philosophical methods, with the happiest results. The horrors of war have been mitigated, not only by the better knowledge of surgery, but in the intelligence with which hospital service has been afforded to sick and wounded. This was most happily illustrated in our late civil war. I do not wish to ascribe to this cause the fact that our pension-roll nearly equals the muster-roll of the army, nor is it necessary to allude to that subject. But certain it is that thousands of brave men have been spared to us who suffered from wounds and diseases, who would have perished had our hospital service been

no better than that of Napoleon or Wellington.

Is it supposed by any that in this great march of progress in medical knowledge Cincinnati has fallen behind? If so, it is error. I profess to speak with some knowledge of the subject, and I declare that in this city we have, and long have had, a body of physicians which, in all that constitutes the true physician—in elevation of character, in general culture, professional learning, and professional skill—has been, and now is, the equal of any similar body in the United States!

The people of Cincinnati have but little conception of the interest and importance which attaches to the great work which goes on in this institution. Aside from the constant alleviation of suffering in all the common forms of disease there are constantly performed here all the difficult and complicated operations of modern surgery, with uniform success in their results. The greatest triumphs of modern learning, genius and skill, are exhibited here,

and the humblest of the poor here receive, without money and without price, the same tender care, the same unsparing exertion of all the resources of science and skill, that are bestowed upon the sick in the proudest mansions in our midst.

I sometimes think, when I lay down my morning paper, that there is nothing of value going forward in Cincinnati. The doings of the politicians are duly recorded. We are told that some one thinks that some one else will be nominated for some office at the next convention, or other matter equally wanting in importance. But let us not forget that in our very midst, in the City of Cincinnati, there are great industries, great institutions of learning and of charity, great provision for instruction in the fine arts, and a great body of men and women profoundly intent upon doing all that it is possible for them to do for society and the State, and let this reflection enable us to appreciate our city, and to believe in her future.

ADDRESS BY

WM. CARSON, M.D.,

Librarian.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

A few attempts have been made to establish medical libraries in the city of Cincinnati in the course of its history. Not one of these was intended to be strictly a public library, for the use of the entire profession, unless we except the one established by the late Dr. Wm. H. Mussey. That can not be said to have an independent existence, as it is incorporated with our Public Library, and part and parcel of a miscellaneous collection. It stands, however, as a notable evidence of public spirit and a desire to benefit the entire medical profession.

Early in the history of the Medical College of Ohio a library of medical books was established there. It is known to have been a good collection, but has been scattered, and now, we be-

lieve, has no existence. We are indebted to Dr. A. G. Drury, of this city, for the following facts in regard to this library of the Medical College of Ohio. The library was a part of the earliest equipment of the college.

In the first circular of the college, issued August 20, 1820, it is stated that "the library provided for the institution already consists of more than five hundred volumes in the English and French languages, and embraces most of the text and elementary, and many of the rare and curious works in anatomy, physiology, the practice of physic, surgery, chemistry, obstetrics, materia medica, medical jurisprudence, and botany, both general and medical." Most of the books were necessarily imported. At one time, in 1830, Dr. Cobb, of the Faculty, was sent to Eu-

rope to make purchases of books, engravings, etc., for the library. A number of reports were made from time to time to the Legislature and to the Faculty as to its condition. In 1831 Drs. John Morehead and John F. Henry reported over nine hundred volumes, distributed as follows:

Anatomy and plates.....	86
Surgery.....	209
Physiology.....	40
Mineralogy and Chemistry.....	71
Medical Jurisprudence and Botany	32
Obstetrics—Diseases of Women and Children.....	58
Practice.....	333
Miscellaneous, about.....	150

A report in 1847 shows 2,002 volumes. The library had cost \$6,500.

The probability is that the master spirit of the time, Dr. Drake, was its originator, but we can not positively assert this.

In 1851 was founded the "Cincinnati Medical Library Association." Forty-four physicians subscribed \$515. The list embraces every prominent member of the profession in our city at that time. Of these, four are all that are living: Drs. O. D. Norton, J. P. Walker, David Judkins, and John A. Murphy. We believe the present President of the Board of Trustees of the Cincinnati Hospital, Dr. David Judkins, initiated the proceedings which resulted in the formation of the association. Dr. Drake was an active member; his first contribution was \$25. From the records of the association, now in the possession of our library, we learn that Dr. David Judkins was elected president and Dr. John A. Murphy, secretary. On October 15, 1851, Dr. Drake "offered to the library, as a permanent deposit, on condition that he might take them out as he pleased, 140 volumes; Cloquet's Anatomy not to be taken from the library except by the Professor of Anatomy of the Medical College of Ohio." Three rooms were leased in the Ohio Medical College building, with refusal for five years. At a meeting of the Executive Committee Dr. Drake was appointed to deliver the inaugural address at the opening of the rooms on December 26, 1851. On December 20 is written:

"Dr. Drake's lecture postponed on account of the freezing of the Ohio River," the Doctor then being a professor in one of the Louisville medical schools, the University, we believe. The correspondence between Dr. Drake and Dr. David Judkins with reference to this address and its delay we have framed, and it is hanging on our walls. January 9, 1852, we have this record: "Dr. Drake arrived on the 5th, and desired the use of hall for two nights, 9th and 10th of January, but Executive Committee could only afford one night on account of low state of funds."

However, the Doctor delivered his first lecture January 9, 1852, "On the Early Medical Times in Cincinnati," and his second one on January 10, 1852, "On the Origin and Influence of Medical Periodical Literature and the Benefits of Medical Public Libraries." These two addresses were published and we have them here. The constitution of this association, in the handwriting of Dr. Drake, is also hanging on our walls.

On January 11, 1853, a committee was appointed to draft a new constitution. The committee consisted of Drs. Dandridge, Murphy, Slocum, Tate, and Wood. On January 18 we find announced that "committee obtained twenty-two new subscribers, too few to carry on the association." On February 4, 1853, we have announced "new organization," with names following. William Carson was appointed assistant librarian. We do not find any new constitution. There is no memorandum beyond March 8, 1853. The books and furniture were auctioned off, and I recollect I bought one or two. This was the end of what promised to be a successful medical library association. It was not, however, a public one, but was open only to those who became members by election and payment of dues, etc. Since that time there was another private association for library purposes, but it did not last long.

Dr. Drake's discourses, spoken of above, are familiar ones to those who take any interest in our early local medical history, but no history of their origin has ever been given. They are interesting as being productions of the

man who had so much to do with the founding of this hospital, and as being expressive of his convictions of the great importance of public medical libraries. We have thus his endorsement of our enterprise long in advance of its accomplishment. Its consummation is due, however, to the wise forethought and action of one of our number recently deceased, the late Dr. John H. Tate. Dr. Tate was thoughtful and studious, and always willing and anxious for the betterment of the medical profession. We honor him as essentially the founder of this library.

The following extracts from the minutes of the Academy of Medicine give the time and mode of origin of the library:

"The Academy met in regular session this evening, Dr. Dawson in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted.

"Miscellaneous business.

"Dr. Tate presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Legislature of Ohio be respectfully petitioned to alter the law establishing and regulating the Cincinnati Hospital, so that the money received from the sale of tickets to medical students shall be set apart as a special fund to be used only in creating and maintaining a medical library and museum in connection with that institution, which shall be open to all physicians of Cincinnati free of charge.

"The resolution was seconded by Dr. Thornton.

"He then said that the profession was much interested in the establishment of a library and museum. The sum obtained from students now was small, but would constantly increase, as this was destined to become a great medical centre, and such an addition to the hospital would prove a great attraction, as well as a means of advancing science.

"Dr. Thornton said that the hospital would soon become the medical school; that clinical teaching was rapidly superseding didactic; that there was no museum, either pathological or anatomical, in the city, and that in his opinion the whole money should be expended in establishing the museum and library, to the exclusion of the purchase of instru-

ments, which should be furnished by the city.

"Dr. Tate's resolution was carried.

"Dr. Tate moved that a committee of six be appointed to memorialize the Legislature upon the subject of the resolution. Seconded and carried.

"There were appointed on the above committee Drs. Patton, Muscroft, Tate, Walker, Thornton and Unzicker."

On March 1, 1870, was passed the following amendment to Section 5 of an act entitled "An Act regulating the Cincinnati Hospital of Cincinnati, etc.:"

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio*, That Section 5 of said act be so amended as to read as follows:

SEC. 5. It shall be the duty, etc. The Trustees, in their discretion, and under such regulations as they may prescribe, may admit medical students, not pupils of said college, to witness the medical and surgical treatment of patients in said hospital. The Trustees shall have the power whenever they may deem it for the welfare of said patients so to do, to dismiss the faculty of said college from attendance on said hospital.

The Trustees may affix to the introduction or admission into said hospital of the pupils of said college, or other medical students, such fee as they may deem proper, but the same shall be alike to all, and shall be paid to the Treasury of the City of Cincinnati, and be used for a fund for establishing and maintaining a medical library and museum for said hospital; and the said Board of Trustees shall, from time to time, appropriate and apply such said fund for the purchase of a library of scientific books and specimens and illustrations directly connected with, and collateral to, the cultivation of medical and surgical science, which shall be open, at reasonable hours, to all physicians of Cincinnati, and to all such pupils and medical students admitted to the privilege of said hospital, as aforesaid, free of charge.

This act and amendment provided clearly for a library that would be free to all the physicians of Cincinnati, and such students of medicine as might be in attendance upon the clinical lectures of the hospital.

Steps were then taken to establish the library. There was a difference of opinion as to the location of it: in the hospital building or in a room provided for it at the Cincinnati Public Library. Some of us were opposed to any other location than one in the hospital itself, on the ground of the necessity of the books and illustrations being required

for the use of the Staff in their daily work, and in the illustration of lectures in the hospital amphitheatre.

On August 8, 1870, a proposition from the Board of Trustees of the Cincinnati Hospital was presented to the Board of Managers of the Public Library relative to arrangements for a room to accommodate the books about to be purchased.

On September 12, 1870, the Board of Managers of the Public Library replied that they would prepare a distinct catalogue, and a room suitable for the accommodation of the books, with the power of the Board of Trustees to designate whether the library would be in whole or in part a circulating library, or a library of reference. The above basis to continue in force five years. On September 16, 1870, the Board of Trustees of the Cincinnati Hospital unanimously accepted the conditions of the Public Library.

December 1, 1870, a list of books was selected by the medical staff and forwarded to the Board of Trustees, and on May 28 the books were ordered and paid for out of the library fund. The arrangement proved, as was expected, so unsatisfactory that on January 29, 1874, the medical staff, by resolution, recommended to the Board of Trustees the immediate withdrawal of the hospital library from the Public Library, the same to be deposited in the hospital building. The books were shortly after returned to the hospital, but not without considerable reluctance on the part of then librarian of the Public Library.

The entire amount of the fund from clinical lectures has amounted to about \$35,000, of which one-third has been used in providing for the establishment of a museum. The expenditures for the library have been from 1870 to 1892:

For books and journals.....	\$19,513.69
Binding.....	2,674.30
Freight, express and postage	392.36
Plates, maps, etc.....	148.85
One type-writer.....	110.00
Book-cases.....	1,558.43
Salary of librarian, 12 yrs..	3,530.00

Total\$27,927.63

It was determined from the beginning that the library should be, in general, one of reference, and not a circulating one. Exceptions have been made in favor of the entire medical officers of the hospital, who have the privilege of taking out books for two weeks. There has been very little expenditure for mere text-books. We have endeavored to meet the wants of the several departments of the hospital work. Each member of the staff is called upon for suggestions for purchase, so that the result is an expression of the needs and inclinations of the men who have been engaged in the work of the hospital since 1870. The books are classified under thirty-three subdivisions, more than one-half, 4,225, being bound volumes of periodicals. This predominance of periodical literature is an evidence of the great activity of the medical mind, and while it requires much sifting, it yet affords much original and scientific work. It becomes, as the years pass, the material which the historian and the scientific worker must consult. Like the newspaper, it reflects the medical mind of the hour and day. It is our endeavor, also, to secure all that pertains to American medical literature, either periodical or general. Of the former, we have copies of the first medical periodical published in this country, and so on down to the latest. The distribution is as follows on March 1, 1892:

American current journals.....	1701
British current journals.....	965
German current journals.....	849
French current journals.....	710
Government publications.....	142
Dictionaries.....	203
Surgery.....	321
Transactions.....	515
Reports and lectures.....	100
Hospitals.....	138
Miscellaneous.....	374
Nervous diseases.....	65
Mental diseases.....	19
Ophthalmology.....	17
Otology.....	7
Laryngology and Rhinology....	19
Diagnosis.....	18
Collective works.....	289
Medicine.....	191
Materia medica, therapeutics, etc	94
Legal medicine.....	16
History of medicine and biograp hy.....	74

Obstetrics.....	55
Gynecology..	51
Physiology.....	50
Chemistry.....	37
Bacteriology.....	21
Veterinary medicine.....	11
Anatomy.....	85
Pathology.....	62
Children.....	45
Histology.....	46
Hygiene and Public Health.....	113

Total (bound)..... 7363

Bound periodical volumes..... 4225

Number of current journals—

American.....	62
German.....	40
French.....	24
British.....	23
Italian.....	1
St. Petersburg.....	1

Total..... 151

We have concentrated here a large part of the world's experience for the benefit of every physician who is within reach, daily or hourly, of the library, and through them for the benefit of every individual or family who is under the charge of a physician. If this be true, its benefits will overflow the specific and narrow boundary of professional limits and extend into the wider field of humanity, who will scarcely realize whence its security comes.

We feel that the permanency of the library is assured. Its foundation was laid by the legal enactment which was initiated by Dr. Tate. This was mandatory, and we have no reason to expect any repeal of the law. Jurisprudence and expansile laws must be adjustable to time, place, and population. The complexities of a modern community can not be controlled by the legal mechanism of the simplest assemblages of people. The hospital commissioners who would build a hospital according to the ideas of three-quarters of a century ago might save money, but would fail to come up to the well-understood requirements which density of population, the competitive conditions of modern life, and the scientific and practical knowledge of the present day call for. The addition of a medical library to a hospital is not beyond the scope of the means which a community should give to the medical guardians of its poor.

Throughout our State public money is being spent on public libraries, and the effect is to not only provide reading for the many, but means of study for the specialist. We think that this first legal enactment was a practical recognition of this principle. Empowering a hospital to spend money for a library meant the power of taking care of it as long as the fund which is to be used comes into its possession. A second enactment has provided this suitable room for the care of the books, which would seem to strengthen the legal relation of the library. Yet we had not long since a so-called expert opinion, that the Board of Trustees were guilty of dereliction of duty towards taxpayers because they allowed such an expenditure of money. This opinion was given in the face of the fact that the money for the purchase of books and for the establishment of a museum came from the labors of the medical staff, who do not receive a cent for their services, and that up to this time that money amounts to \$35,000 or more. Few people are aware of the labor that the medical profession does without direct compensation. The number of patients treated annually in this hospital amounts to over four thousand. There are twenty members on the medical staff. A computation is easily made that will show what amount of service they render in terms of arithmetic. Suppose the twenty members of the staff should receive collectively one dollar a year, or five cents for each of the twenty, for service to each patient treated here; that would amount to \$4,000 a year. Suppose that each one of the twenty members should receive one dollar per year for each of the four thousand patients; that would amount to \$80,000, nearly as much as the legal authorities of the city allow for the annual support of the hospital. But this is not all the medical service rendered; the internes, or resident physicians, do a large service for their bed, board and experience; much of the latter is contributed to them by the medical staff. If each interne were to charge one dollar for each visit made his income would amount to between thirty

and forty thousand dollars a year. One of them, a resident of year before last, actually made this calculation, and I am copying it. We may say then, by the force of these figures, that when we argue for the legitimacy of a medical library in this hospital, we are not asking a municipality to be generous, but to be just. We rejoice with the legal profession that they have such a resource in the administration of justice as their library in the court-house, and we have no doubt the community is better off for their having it within such easy access. We do not begrudge the expense which the County Commissioners go to in providing a place for it and some means for carrying it on. It is a recognition of the value of the person and of property. Our is a recognition of the value of health and human lives, and the sooner this principle is extended so as to embrace State and National authority the sooner will we occupy the position which the most advanced nations of the world have assumed. If the State and the city have duties in this relation, the medical profession in this city and neighborhood have theirs. It is intended that there shall be every facility for its use consistent with its preservation. Until now we have not been able to do that. Thanks to the Board of Trustees and its building committee, Dr. David Judkins and Mr. Wm. J. Ronsheim, we are in a position to throw open all our resources to those who come. Every man shall be welcome; if he do not come he is responsible to his patrons, for I can not conceive of a practitioner of medicine who would not at some time feel the necessity of such help as he may get here. If he have wealth, large wealth, he may satisfy his desires by having his own private library; but how few are there of that kind, and where can they put their treasures so as to make them easily available to themselves? The young man who enters the medical profession at this time will find it the field of the most intense and untiring intellectual activity. He will meet with competitive struggles of which the last generation knew little or nothing. He must apply every resource that his

mind can lay hold of; and among the help, none will serve him better than the chance of not only seeing cases at the bedside, but of carrying them to their last analysis by studying them in a well-selected library. The law of financial increase is "take care of the pennies and the pounds will take care of themselves." So it is if the young physician utilizes every case in this way his penny of study will become pounds of experience and generalization. As to the older men, if there is one of them who has comprehended in his experience the infinite diversity and complexity of disease, he has no need of our resources here.

The profession can also benefit the library by giving us books, pamphlets, manuscripts, autographs, and photographs. In the dust and obscurity of the family garret lies many a document neglected and worthless until associated with others in the construction of a library of this sort. From such come beginnings of history, the tracings of some individual career, the settling of disputed topics, or the completion of a set of valuable periodicals. In them are often found unexpectedly the germs of the fruitage we now enjoy. The philosophy of the age requires that we must get back to the minute and insignificant before we can grasp the trend of doctrine and events going before us.

We personify our books, commune with them, and go to them in the quiet of our homes and studies for comfort and instruction. Let me personify this library, and announce that the youth has not long since passed his majority. It would be a fitting ceremonial if some liberal citizen would help this promising member of our family with an endowment, so that he can go forward still more vigorously into the great future in his career of education and usefulness.

In conclusion, we hereby tender our thanks to the legislature of twenty-two years ago for their passage of the act making the clinical fund of the hospital available for the purchase of books and the establishment of a medical library; to the Hamilton County members of the

last legislature who gave their necessary assistance in the procurement of an appropriation which enabled us to build a suitable home for our books; it brought us from the darkness, dust and obstruction of our narrow quarters into the expanse, light, quiet, and convenience of the rooms which we are now inaugurating; to the Board of Trustees and its efficient building committee, Messrs. Ronshiem and Judkins, with Superintendent McLean, for their intelligent aid, and to our clerk and custodian, Alfred Marchand, for the great amount of labor which he, almost unaided, gave in placing and classifying these more than 7,000 volumes on the shelves.

From this aspect of promise we must turn to one of grief and disap-

pointment. Dr. Tate was to have been our chief representative on this occasion. It would have been a source of great joy to him and us had he lived to this day. He was a friend of books, and they were his friends. He had a high regard for his profession, and it was a happy interpretation of his spirit when his resolution was adopted in the Academy of Medicine and when the Legislature enacted it, as a fundamental principle and law for this hospital. We have on our walls his speaking likeness, and in our memories his long and useful career, his just and righteous life, and his success in being the means of untold usefulness to his profession and to this hospital in the long years to come.

Let this library be his monument.

